



Office of the
State Superintendent of Education (OSSE)

The background of the slide is a photograph of two young children, a girl and a boy, sitting at a table and eating apples. The girl, in the foreground, is holding a red apple with a bite taken out of it. The boy, slightly behind her, is also holding an apple. A clear plastic water bottle is visible on the table in the foreground. The image is partially covered by a dark blue horizontal band and a red curved band at the top and bottom.

Achieving Success in the Least Restrictive Environment: Capitalizing on the District of Columbia's Accomplishments

Origins of Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) and Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)

FAPE:

- An educational right under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) that ensures that children with disabilities are able to access the general curriculum and are prepared for further education, employment, and independent living to the same extent as their non-disabled peers.

LRE:

- A requirement under IDEA that every public agency ensure that, to the maximum extent appropriate, children with disabilities are educated with children who are non-disabled. Special schooling, special classes, or other removal of children with disabilities from the general education environment should occur only if the nature or severity of the disability is such that education in regular classes, with the use of supplementary aids and services, cannot be achieved satisfactorily.

The State of LRE in the District of Columbia

- National Average for Children Placed in Separate Settings: 3%*
- Data for Comparative Jurisdiction: 3%*
- DC's Current Rate of Placements in Separate Settings: 28%**
- DC's Current Rate of Placements in Nonpublic Programs: 18%**

* - U.S. Dept. of Education, Office of Special Education Programs

** - DC FFY2010 Annual Performance Report

OSSE's Theory of Action

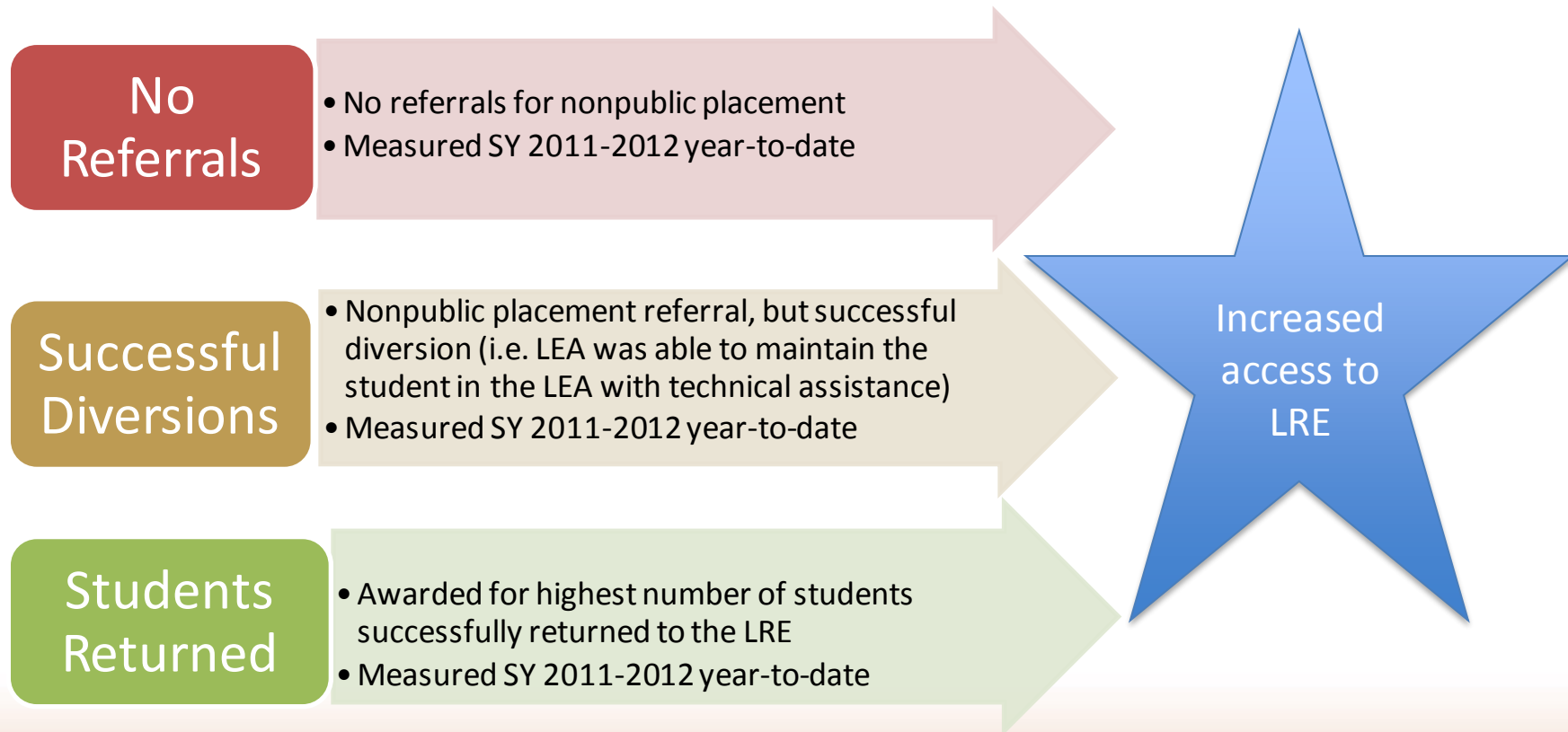
If the State **removes** barriers and **creates pathways** to maximize LEA innovation,

Then school leaders and teachers that are **best qualified** to develop solutions can **expand** best practices that support FAPE in the LRE which the District can **replicate**.

BENEFITS OF LEAs PARTICIPATING IN LRE INITIATIVE

- The intent of these contract awards is to reward LEAs and support OSSE's efforts to showcase successful LEA initiatives, thereby increasing the ability to identify best practices worthy of District-wide replication.
- By increasing access to LRE and diversion from non-public placements, the District can maximize limited resources for the betterment of all students.

LRE CONTRACT PERFORMANCE AREAS



Contract Award Criteria

- Category 1: LEAs with no referrals for outplacement: \$45,000
- Category 2: LEAs with 1 referral for outplacement: \$25,000
 - Category 2a: LEAs with 1 referral and 100% diversion rate (meaning student maintained at LEA): \$15,000 in addition to \$25,000 from #2
- Category 3: LEAs with 2 referrals for outplacement: \$15,000
 - Category 3a: LEAs with 2-5 referrals and a minimum 50% diversion rate: Additional \$15,000 in addition to \$15,000 from #3
- Category 4: LEAs serving highest population of students with IEPs and no outplacements: \$300,000
- Category 5: LEAs with highest number of students returned from outplacement: \$35,000 per student

LRE CONTRACT AWARD REQUIREMENTS

- LEA Submits High-Level LRE Spending Plan
 - Approved LRE Expenditures:
 - Staff training
 - Direct services
 - Curriculum/Materials
- LEA Submits Monthly Reimbursement Workbooks
- LEA Submits “LRE Best Practice Brief” for Publication

CONTRACT AWARD PROCESS (RESPONSIBLE PARTY DENOTED)

OSSE

Distribution of Templates

- OSSE will provide templates for:
- Reimbursement workbooks
- Spending Plans
- "Best Practices" Brief

LEA

Submission of Initial Spending Plan (May)

- Expenditures will be allowed for:
- Staff Training
- Direct Services
- Curriculum/ Materials

LEA

Submission of Reimbursement Workbooks

- Workbooks will be submitted monthly
- Submission procedures and format same as all other reimbursement workbooks
- OSSE will review and reconcile workbooks

LEA

Submission of "Best Practices" Brief (September)

- Each LEA will submit "Best practices" Brief
- OSSE will Compile and Publish "Best Practices"
- Publication will be Shared with all LEAs



2012 LEAs THAT QUALIFY FOR LRE CONTRACT AWARDS

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Achievement Preparatory Academy | Howard University |
| Appletree | IDEA |
| Arts & Technology Academy | LAMB |
| Bridges | MM Bethune |
| Capital City | Mundo Verde |
| Center for Inspired Teaching | National Collegiate |
| DC Bilingual | Options |
| DC Preparatory Academy | Potomac Lighthouse |
| DCPS- Proper | SEED PCS |
| Eagle | Septima Clark |
| ESF | Tree of Life |
| Excel | Two Rivers |
| Friendship | Washington Latin |
| Haynes | Washington Yu Ying |
| Hope Community Academy | WMST |



CONTRACT AWARD TIMELINE

May 2,
2012

OSSE
reveals
contract
awards

May 4,
2012

OSSE to
contact each
LEA with
individual
award
amount

May 14,
2012

OSSE
provides
LRE contract
technical
assistance
webinar

May 30,
2012

LEA
provides
OSSE initial
spending
plan

Monthly
(starting
June 30,
2012)

LEA submits
reimbursement
workbooks

Sept.
15, 2012

LEA
submits
"LRE Best
Practice"
brief

Sept.
30, 2012

*LRE Grant
contract
period ends*



THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION

Questions?

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